

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this application as amended.

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Shah for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative, Mr. Jason Vick, during the recent Telephone Conference. During the Telephone Conference, Claim 24 was discussed and contrasted with the Carpenter and Mori references. In particular, the task queue was discussed and it was pointed out that the task queue as claimed is not taught or suggested by any of the references of record.

The amendments to the above claims remove artifacts that existed from the prior French application, provide more clear antecedent basis for some terms and remove a trademark. These amendments do not narrow the scope of the claims in any way.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 since the Amendment: a) places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; b) does not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration since the Amendment amplifies issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; c) does not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and d) places the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. Entry of the Amendment is thus respectfully requested.

In summary, the Office Action rejects claims 24-25, 27, 28, 42, 44 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,148,361 to Carpenter et al. (hereinafter "Carpenter"). Claim 41 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as

unpatentable in view of Carpenter. Claims 26, 29-32, 36, 37, 39, 40, 43, 45 and 47-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Carpenter and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,462,075 to Mori et al. (hereinafter "Mori"). Claim 33-35 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable in view of Carpenter and Mori and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,214,652 to Sutton (hereinafter "Sutton").

Claim 24 recites, *inter alia*, a process for assigning tasks to a processor in a multiprocessor digital data processing system having a given number of processors capable of processing said tasks in parallel, comprising... diving the tasks into a predetermined number of elementary task queues and storing a predetermined number of tasks to be processed in a given priority in each elementary task queue, each of said processor groups being associated with an elementary task queue, each of the tasks being associated with one of the processors associated with the elementary task queue.

Claim 42 recites, *inter alia*, an architecture for a multiprocessor digital data processing system having a given number of processors for implementing a process comprising... processors being divided into groups and an elementary task queue associated with each of the groups, each of said elementary task queues storing a predetermined number of tasks to be processed in a given order of priority, so that each of the tasks of each of said elementary task queues is associated with one of the processors in the group associated with the elementary task queue.

As previously discussed, Carpenter is directed toward an interrupt architecture for processing interrupts in NUMA systems. While Carpenter illustrates in Figure 4 a pending queue and a current task priority register, and on column 10 discusses

determining whether an interrupt level specified in an interrupt request packet is greater than a priority level specified in the current task priority register or high enough to obtain an entry in the pending queue 130 of the processor 10, Carpenter at no point teaches or suggests the relationship of tasks, task queues and processor groups as recited in the independent claims.

Mori not only fails to overcome the deficiencies as noted above, but, since Mori and Carpenter are in completely different arts, are also not combinable in that is well established law that a motivation to combine must be founding the references themselves.

Accordingly, the various rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 are untenable and should be withdrawn.

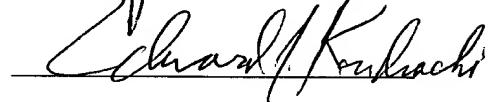
Should the Examiner believe that further amendments are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, or if the Examiner believes that a personal interview would be advantageous in order to more expeditiously resolve any remaining issues, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Docket: No.: T2147-906388
Appl. No. 09/545,493
Reply to Office Action of January 20, 2004

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with this application, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (Attorney Docket No T2147-906388) and credit any excess fees to the same Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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